

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 257**

**Introduced by Assembly Member Vincent**

February 1, 1999

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An act to amend Section 9542 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to Alzheimer's disease.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 257, as introduced, Vincent. Alzheimer's Day Care-Resource Center Program.

Under existing law, the Alzheimer's Day Care-Resource Center Program is established to provide access to specialized day care resource centers for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia-related disorders and support to their families and caregivers. Existing law requires a direct services contract applicant to meet specified criteria in order to be eligible to receive funds under the program.

This bill would additionally require an applicant for funds under the program to provide staff to care for persons of nonnative English-speaking ethnic groups, where a large concentration of those groups is served by the center.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 9542 of the Welfare and  
2 Institutions Code is amended to read:

1 9542. (a) The Legislature finds and declares that the  
2 purpose of the Alzheimer's Day Care-Resource Center  
3 Program is to provide access to specialized day care  
4 resource centers for individuals with Alzheimer's disease  
5 and other dementia-related disorders and support to  
6 their families and caregivers.

7 (b) The following definitions shall govern the  
8 construction of this section:

9 (1) "Participant" means an individual with  
10 Alzheimer's disease or a disease of a related type,  
11 particularly the participant in the moderate to severe  
12 stages, whose care needs and behavioral problems may  
13 make it difficult for the individual to participate in  
14 existing care programs.

15 (2) "Other dementia-related disorders" means those  
16 irreversible brain disorders that result in the symptoms  
17 described in paragraph (3). This shall include, but is not  
18 limited to, multi-infarct dementia and Parkinson's  
19 disease.

20 (3) "Care needs" or "behavioral problems" means the  
21 manifestations of symptoms that may include, but need  
22 not be limited to, memory loss, aphasia (communication  
23 disorder), becoming lost or disoriented, confusion and  
24 agitation, with the potential for combativeness, and  
25 incontinence.

26 (4) "Alzheimer's day care resource center" means a  
27 center developed pursuant to this section to provide a  
28 program of specialized day care for participants with  
29 dementia.

30 (c) The department shall adopt policies and guidelines  
31 to carry out the purposes of this section, and the adoption  
32 thereof shall not be subject to Chapter 3.5 (commencing  
33 with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the  
34 Government Code.

35 (d) In order to be eligible to receive funds under this  
36 section, a direct services contract applicant shall do all of  
37 the following:

38 (1) Provide a program and services to meet the special  
39 care needs of, and address the behavioral problems of,  
40 participants.

1 (2) Provide adequate and appropriate staffing to meet  
2 the nursing, psychosocial, and recreational needs of  
3 participants.

4 (3) Provide physical facilities that include the  
5 safeguards necessary to protect the participants' safety.

6 (4) Provide a program for assisting individuals who  
7 cannot afford the entire cost of the program. This may  
8 include, but need not be limited to, utilizing additional  
9 funding sources to provide supplemental aid and  
10 allowing family members to participate as volunteers at  
11 the applicant's facility.

12 (5) Utilize volunteers and volunteer aides and provide  
13 adequate training for those volunteers.

14 (6) Provide a match of not less than 25 percent of the  
15 direct services contract amount consisting of cash or  
16 in-kind contributions, identify other potential sources of  
17 funding for the applicant's facility, and outline plans to  
18 seek additional funding to remain solvent.

19 (7) Maintain family and caregiver support groups.

20 (8) Encourage family members and caregivers to  
21 provide transportation to and from the applicant's facility  
22 for participants.

23 (9) Concentrate on participants in the moderate to  
24 severe ranges of disability.

25 (10) Provide or arrange for a noon meal to  
26 participants.

27 (11) Establish contact with local educational  
28 programs, such as nursing and gerontology programs, to  
29 provide onsite training to students.

30 (12) Provide services to assist family members,  
31 including counseling and referral to other resources.

32 (13) Serve as model centers available to other service  
33 providers for onsite training in the care of these patients.

34 (14) Involve the center in community outreach  
35 activities and provide educational and informational  
36 materials to the community.

37 (15) Maintain a systematic means of capturing and  
38 reporting all required community-based services  
39 program data.

1     (16) *Provide staff to care for persons of nonnative*  
2     *English-speaking ethnic groups, where a large*  
3     *concentration of those groups is served by the center.*

4     (e) Notwithstanding any provision of the Health and  
5     Safety Code, direct services contractors that are not  
6     already licensed shall be exempt from licensure  
7     requirements under this division and shall be subject  
8     exclusively to this chapter.

9     (f) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to  
10    prevent existing adult day care services, including adult  
11    day health care centers, from developing a specialized  
12    program under this chapter. The applicants shall meet all  
13    of the requirements for direct services contractors in this  
14    chapter and satisfactorily demonstrate that the direct  
15    services contract funding award shall be used to develop  
16    a distinct specialized program for this target population.  
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